

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/040,648

Applicant(s)

ENGELSBURG ET AL.

Examiner

Huyen X. Vo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/3/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11 (original 3-13).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 11/3/2005
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's representative, Mr. William Valance, on 3/28/2006. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 3 has been amended as follow:

3. A method of upgrading a data stream of multimedia data, said data stream comprising features with a textual description, said textual description comprising a plurality of words, said method comprising the steps of:

a) including a set of phonetic translation hints in the data stream of the multimedia data in addition to the textual description, wherein each of said phonetic translation hints comprises a repeated word of the textual description and a phonetic transcription of said repeated word, and each of said phonetic translation hints is provided only once in said data stream, wherein said phonetic transcription of said repeated word determines pronunciation of said repeated word and is valid for said

textual description without requiring repetition of said phonetic transcription hint for said repeated word at each occurrence of said repeated word in said textual description; and

b) using each of said phonetic transcription hints provided in the data stream to define pronunciation of said repeated word associated therewith at each occurrence of said repeated word in said textual description.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 3-13 (now amended 1-11) are allowed prior art of record. After reviewing applicant's arguments on pages 7-12 of the remarks section, filed 2/3/2006, claims 3-13 (now amended 1-11) are determined to contain allowable subject matters. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Scheirer et al. (applicant's admitted prior art) disclose a method and system for converting textual data into a sequence of phonetic symbols that is transmitted to a remote location for use in a speech synthesizer (*referring to reference*). Matsumoto (US 5940796) teaches a speech synthesis client/server system in that the server receives textual data from the client device and processed into a sequence of phonetic symbols that are transmitted back to the client device for use in synthesizing speech (*referring to reference*). Carter et al. (US 6600814) teach a messaging system comprising a storage unit for storing e-mail messages, a text-to-speech converter for converting the different text segments of e-mail messages into speech signals for playback to a user via a telephone handset, and a cache for storing the speech signals of selected ones of previously converted text segments. Upon a subsequent request by a user to convert the text segments of a new

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e-mail message to speech signals for playback via a telephone handset, the speech signals of previously converted text segments that are identical to any text segments of the new e-mail message are played back from the cache thus avoiding the need for the text-to-speech converter to convert those text segments of the new e-mail message to speech. The load on the text-to-speech converter is thereby reduced (*referring to reference*). All the references above fail to specifically teach the particular step of preparing a data stream by including a phonetic translation hint for repeated word only once in the data stream, only one phonetic transcription for a repeated word, wherein the phonetic translation hint comprises the repeated word and a phonetic transcription of the repeated word so that the phonetic translation hint is not repeated in said at least a part of the textual description at each occurrence of said repeated word, for which the phonetic transcription is given. Furthermore, it would have not been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify/combine the prior art of record mentioned above to obtain the claimed invention. Therefore, claims 3-13 (now amended 1-11) are allowed over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huyen X. Vo whose telephone number is 571-272-7631. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on 571-272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HXV

3/28/2006


RICHEMOND DORVIL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER